

Message Text

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63/47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OPR-01 A-01 SY-04 /055 W

----- 060344

O R 062000Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3801

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

USCINCSO

JCS

DIA

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CORRECTED COPY - PARA NBR ONE

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PE

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR PROTESTS LA PRENSA'S CIA ALLEGATIONS

1. AFTER READING LA PRENSA EDITORIAL ACCUSING CIA OF ORGANIZING YESTERDAY'S CIVIL DISTURBANCES (SEPTTEL), I TELEPHONED FOREIGN MINISTER. IN HIS ABSENCE, I SPOKE TO SECRETARY GENERAL GARCIA BEDOYA.

2. I TOLD GARCIA BEDOYA HOW MUCH WE LAMENT UNFORTUNATE SITUATION WHICH HAS DEVELOPED IN PERU. I SAID WE ALL KNOW THAT THIS IS NO WAY TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS, AND ASKED THAT HE CONVEY OUR FEELING OF DISMAY AND CONCERN TO FOREIGN MINISTER ON BEHALF OF MY GOVERNMENT AND MYSELF.

3. AT SAME TIME, I SAID I HAD TO EXPRESS MY MOST PROFOUND FEELING OF REVULSION AND PROTEST OVER TODAY'S EDITORIAL IN LA PRENSA BLAMING CIA FOR WHAT HAS OCCURRED. I

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TOLD HIM, "YOU AND I KNOW THAT CIA HAD NOTHING TO

DO WITH IT", ADDING THAT WE HAVE NOT PROTESTED SUCH CHARGES IN PAST, NORMAL TIMES, BUT UNDER THESE DANGEROUS CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH DEMAGOGUERY BY A PRESS THAT HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER RECENTLY BY THE GOVERNMENT APPEARS TO ME TO BE INTOLERABLE. IT CONTRADICTS WHAT THEY ARE TRYING TO DO. I SAID I WAS SURE THAT THE ARMED FORCES AND THE FEW MEMBERS OF THE INVESTIGATIVE POLICE (PIP) WE HAVE SEEN AROUND OUR INSTALLATIONS ARE MAKING A SINCERE EFFORT TO PROTECT THE CHANCERY AND RESIDENCE AT A TIME WHEN WE ARE RECEIVING MOB ATTACKS AND HAVE SUFFERED TWO INCENDIARY INCIDENTS (REPORTED YESTERDAY). I SAID I THINK IT IS TIME FOR GOVERNMENT OF PERU TO CALL LA PRENSA DIRECTOR WALTER PENALOZA AND ANYBODY ELSE ENGAGED IN SUCH DEMAGOGUERY AT THIS CRITICAL TIME AND TELL THEM TO STOP.

4. GARCIA BEDOYA RESPONDED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDERSTOOD PROBLEM AND WAS ALSO CONCERNED BY THE LA PRENSA EDITORIAL. HE ASKED THAT WE UNDERSTAND THAT GOP DOES NOT EXERCISE CONTROL OVER FREE-WHEELING PRESS EDITORIALISTS, AND ASSURED ME THAT MILGOV DOES NOT BELIEVE PENALOZA LINE. HE SAID THAT PENALOZA WOULD BE CALLED AND TOLD TO STOP.

5. WE THEN REVIEWED THE EMBASSY'S SECURITY SITUATION AND HE ASKED ME TO CALL HIM SHOULD OTHER PROBLEMS DEVELOP.

DEAN

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